

Resources to Scale

General Public and Policy Support for Affordable Ownership – Stronger advocacy within City, County and State for traditional funding, pilot projects.

Consistent Funding – Unpredictable funding streams or year-to-year changes in funding criteria create risk.

Funding for Multi-Unit for Ownership – Some funding agencies prefer homeownership projects of 11 units or less.

Policy and Program Development -- Affordable housing policies and zoning in cities outside Seattle.

Surplus Land -- City, County and Transit surplus lands free to developers of affordable housing for 80% AMI and below.

Development Support – Low-interest construction financing, policies that do not penalize mixed-income developments, expedited permitting. Address funding practices that create financial risk for community- and place-based (smaller) developers.

Disposition of Foreclosed Homes – Affordable housing non-profits get first opportunity to purchase homes – lottery instead of price competition at auction (State Law).

Capacity Building & Technical Assistance— Grant support or seed money for affordable housing developers to figure out new models, and for resident-groups to partner with housing developers on pilot tenant to ownership conversions or limited equity coop development.

Zoning – Zoning that favors development of affordable housing in areas of high displacement.

Empower Tenants – Tools like the TOPA program in Washington DC that require private owners to offer buildings to tenants prior to selling to other parties.

Tax Incentives -- Tax incentives to transfer property from private ownership to nonprofit affordable ownership organizations.